

# Civil Division U.S. Department of Justice



The Civil Division **safeguards taxpayer dollars**, preserves the **intent of Congress**, ensures the Federal Government speaks with **one voice** in its view of the law, advances the **credibility** of the Federal Government before the courts, and **protects** the health, safety, and economic security of the American people. We represent more than 200 federal agencies, individual employees, Members of Congress, the federal judiciary, and the people of the United States—an impressive array of clients.

## Unsurpassed Experiences

*Check your newsfeed nearly any day, and you will find some issue of national importance the Civil Division is involved in. Each year, Division attorneys handle tens of thousands of different matters that collectively involve billions of dollars in claims and recoveries.*



## What does the Civil Division do?

The Civil Division's litigation reflects the diversity of government activities, involving, for example, the defense of challenges to Presidential actions; national security issues; benefit programs; energy policies; commercial issues such as contract disputes, banking insurance, patents, fraud, and debt collection; all manner of accident and liability claims; and criminal violations of the immigration and consumer protection laws. The Division confronts significant policy issues, which often rise to constitutional dimensions, in defending and enforcing various federal programs and actions.

***Learn more at [www.usdoj.gov/civil](http://www.usdoj.gov/civil)***

### Why Civil Division?

You will immediately handle significant litigation and will be given **unrivaled responsibility**. You will receive support from senior litigators and training in a **collegial** and **welcoming** atmosphere. You get the **thrill** of standing up in court and representing the United States of America.

### Opportunities

We hire entry level attorneys through the **Honors Program**, the largest and most prestigious federal entry-level attorney hiring program of its kind. We also hire compensated legal interns through the **Summer Law Internship Program**, and offer **volunteer internships** year-round. Visit [www.usdoj.gov/legalcareers](http://www.usdoj.gov/legalcareers) for details

## Civil Division Offices



*The Civil Division is the largest litigating Division at the Department, with 6 litigating Branches and over 1,000 attorneys. The Civil Division's role within the legal community is one of responsibility, visibility, and importance. We invite you to consider joining us.*

### **Appellate Staff**

The Appellate Staff of the Civil Division handles appeals in cases arising from all of the Division's Branches and Offices, encompassing a broad range of substantive issues. The Staff also handles many cases that are appealed directly from administrative agencies to the courts of appeals. Attorneys on the Staff draft briefs and orally argue cases in the courts of appeals. In addition, each attorney participates in drafting various documents for the United States Supreme Court, including petitions for certiorari and briefs on the merits in Civil Division cases.

### **Consumer Protection Branch**

The Consumer Protection Branch enforces federal consumer protection laws and defends federal agencies that administer those laws (e.g., food and drug laws, including generic drug manufacturing and tobacco product advertising, and product safety laws). Among the Office's client agencies are the Food and Drug Administration, the Federal Trade Commission, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The office's attorneys handle civil and criminal cases at both the trial and appellate levels.

### **Office of Immigration Litigation-Appellate & District Court Section**

The Office of Immigration Litigation has jurisdiction over all civil immigration litigation, and is responsible for the nationwide coordination of immigration matters before the federal district courts and circuit courts of appeals. The Office has both affirmative and defensive litigation responsibilities, and its attorneys work closely with United States Attorneys' offices on immigration cases. The Office of Immigration Litigation provides support and counsel to all federal agencies involved in the admission, regulation, and removal of aliens under our immigration and nationality statutes, as well as related areas of border enforcement and national security.

### **Commercial Litigation Branch**

The largest branch in the Division, the Commercial Litigation Branch handles cases that involve billions of dollars in claims both by and against the government. The Branch prosecutes claims for the recovery of monies fraudulently secured or improperly diverted from the United States Treasury. It defends the country's international trade policy, and defends and asserts the government's contract and patent rights. In addition, the Branch protects the government's financial and commercial interests under foreign treaties. The Branch's workload falls into five major areas: Corporate/Financial Litigation; Civil Frauds; Intellectual Property; Litigation in the National Courts; and Foreign Litigation.

### **Federal Programs Branch**

The Federal Programs Branch litigates on behalf of approximately 100 federal agencies, the President and Cabinet officers, and other government officials. The activities of this Branch include defending against constitutional challenges to federal statutes, suits to overturn government policies and programs, and attacks on the legality of government decisions. The Branch also initiates litigation to enforce regulatory statutes and to remedy statutory and regulatory violations.

### **Torts Branch**

The Torts Branch represents the interests of the United States, including its officers and agents, in suits where monetary judgments are sought for damages resulting from negligent or wrongful acts. The Branch also handles actions involving injury or damage to government property. The attorneys employed by the Torts Branch are divided among four different sections: Aviation and Admiralty Litigation; Federal Tort Claims Act Litigation; Environmental Tort Litigation; and Constitutional and Specialized Tort Litigation.

Civil also administers three **compensation programs**: the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, the Radiation Exposure Compensation Program, and the September 11th Victim Compensation Program.